

Clinton Parks & Recreation Commission

(Board Meeting began @ 5:30pm. 1/11/16)

Present: Ed V., Carly C., Joe R., Jamie J. and Yoanna O. – (Emily E. and Kaylee G.).

Minutes from 12/17/15 – Joe motioned to accept; Carly 2nd, all in favor, 4-0 (Yoanna came later).

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

Government Affairs Committee – Dec. 30th @ 1pm.

Worried about losing some positions but actually a good move overall for managing town properties and buildings.

Capital Budget Projects – (what do we want to ask for this year)

o Lighting Project – still doing research.

o Gazebo- \$27K plus prep work will be around \$30K

o Fountain – Priority is super high... about \$15K, to compensate for a larger pump and enhanced filtration system since it requires more power to pump the volume of water upward in general. Eddie Mayo did what he knew given his plumbing background which was sufficient at the time. However, pool experts think through the process differently, considering the momentum it takes to sustain said water flow. Recaulking of the basin perimeter is included as well.

o Savage Field – See other notes

o Cameras – Ed suggested we submit a news article soliciting the public's feedback. Great idea! Emily will work with Yoanna on this public opinion strategy.

Yoanna suggested that Emily prepare warrants for all four considerations. She is concerned that any negative vibes surrounding the camera issue might impact the Savage Field project. Careful introduction of material and facts into the public arena will help with educating the voters in advance of the town meeting.

RECREATION:

Summer Concert Licensing - It would be purchased for the entire town to use. Emily said that it wouldn't be fair for us to use our funds and every other department use it on our dime. In 1923 there was a situation where the venue needed to be responsible for this licensing. (Follow the money)

SESAC is not the only company offering this coverage. Still pending ~ Select Board will address this issue on 1/20/16.

Daddy Daughter Dance/Mother Son Movie – Feb. 13th, 4-6pm. Both events start at the same time.

Softball Registrations – Opened already, small numbers so far. Lots of good talk around town about it!

Joe wondered about a policy cap on cost for families with multiple children. Emily will be meeting with the new league this coming week. Night games will be scheduled at Vale St. to pay for the lighting. Whatever entity uses the fields must properly restore the bases to their previous condition due to the ruts dug out intentionally.

**Jamie pointed out that pest control must be spearheaded EARLY in the season in order to deter the annoying conditions that were endured last year.

February Vacation Programs – We need two weeks notice in order to secure batting cage practice times. Carly will let folks know to sign up or the program will have to be cancelled.

“Family Paint Night” - Created an activity (6-8pm), no age limit. \$35/person or canvas.

Block Parties on Ice (dates and plans) – Feb. 5th and later on February 19th. Pat McIntyre will be the DJ; he gave us a great price. Concessions are going to be a blast!! We will probably light firepits for the crowd, and CEMA will illuminate the parking area for us, too. [Ice Rink – anticipating the rink to be filled this week.]

** Everyone on the board can do a baked good item or donate individually packaged food goods.

Holiday Lighting Competition – Ten homes listed and decided on Dec. 18th.

Cultural Council grants awarded. June 17th (Friday Night). Sponsors will be sought out. Didn't want it to be too close to the Olde Home Day event. We can promote the OHD movie as well.

PARKS:

Central Park:

Tree Replacement in Central Park- (Mike 'Gamache's recommendation)

In front of fountain, Mike suggested a magnolia tree which flowers nicely, but he said to stay away from maples or anything in the Aser family due to the beetle issues. Anything oak, paper or tri-color birches are also good. In addition, Dale DiMeco thought the tri-color would be a great contrast with a pinkish hue to the dominant green landscape already present in the park.

Ed suggested that we purchase a more mature tree (especially size-wise) through Bob Latini's connections at Bigelow Nurseries. Final tree size matters on how a tree gets pruned, but starting

with a large one helps. It will require a tree spade to install the larger trees. Special soil will help with the small root growth and balance of bacteria in the ground in order for the transition to be successful.

Savage Field: (Savage field update from Gale Associates)

Peter Spanos finalized the cost of **Phase 1** – roughly \$545,000 (most impactful and change in terms of visual differences ~ pavilion, playground, walking trail and parking lot). Decorative lighting vs. floodlights on the poles will save \$20,000. This figure covers the wiring conduit that runs to the perimeter of the field, too.

Savage Field Project - Commissioner responsibilities

☐ *Social Media Coordinator* – **Joe**

- ➔ Updating Facebook page and creating a strong presence online
- ➔ Sending information to public cable channel to be broadcasted, radio, etc.
- ➔ ****This is a group page where we can add all our friends in town**

☐ *Volunteer Point of Contact* - **Carly**

- ➔ Helping to recruit supporters and volunteers at events where representation is needed
- ➔ Coordinate and schedule the volunteers
- ➔ Set meetings (liasion with GALE Associates)

☐ *Marketing Coordinator* (2 people) – **Jamie & Yoanna**

- ➔ Designing marketing materials and coordinating distribution (letters to voters, T-shirts, signs, etc.) Jamie will take this job on.
- ➔ Writing and submitting articles in newspaper – Yoanna volunteered for this responsibility. (**Letter to the Editor introducing the effort to spread the word. Asking for volunteers town wide for raising awareness overall. Submit to paper by end of January).
- ➔ Connect with Bill Marsh – Sports writer for the Item who would love to cover this topic
- ➔ 1st meeting of committee – should be around early March.

☐ *Fundraiser coordinator* - **Carly**

- ➔ Facilitate fundraisers and donations
- ➔ Oversee concession stands at “Block Parties on Ice”
- ➔ Funds raised from Concessions can be dedicated to creating T-Shirts for the Savage Field Project and cover printing costs

☐ *Lighting Project in Central Park*

Emily has met with several lighting companies and hav received quotes that total around \$100K!! We are focused on the antique looking poles with a minimum of 8 to start with. The poles will be wired for attaching security cameras down the road if desired. Asthetically pleasing would be to place lights in several trees, but they aren't as effective. If we desire a 360 degree camera, an independent pole will need to be mounted as National Grid won't allow us to use the current one.

If we keep diverting funds to other projects, Savage Field will be sacrificed in terms of its overall cost. Mike asked about the additional savings from having the poles already wired off the

original cost of the camera installation. Some private citizen offered to donate an aluminum pole if we needed one.

**New Seats in the Common Room are courtesy of the Senior Center since paying our room fee to host Bingo a year in advance, in full.

Adjourned meeting @ 6:57pm. - Ed motioned to adjourn; Jamie 2nd, all in favor, 5-0. Next meeting scheduled for **February 29 at 5:30pm.**